

What is claimed is:

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1. A mobile device, comprising:

a positioner configured to determine geographic position information related to the device; and

a transceiver assigned a unique mobile number by a wireless communication system in which the device operates, and which is communicatively coupled to the positioner, the transceiver configured to receive position requests directed to the mobile number and to transmit the position information in response to the position requests.

2. The device of claim 1, wherein the positioner comprises a GPS receiver.

3. The device of claim 1, wherein the transceiver is configured to continuously transmit a tone in response to a received position request if the positioner is unable to determine the position information.

4. The device of claim 1, wherein the positioner and the transceiver are included on a removable card installed in the device.

5. The device of claim 1, wherein the transceiver is a wireless transceiver.

6. The device of claim 5, wherein the wireless transceiver is configured to transmit and receive information using at least one of the following communication protocols: CDMA, TDMA, GSM, and WCDMA.

7. The device of claim 1, further comprising a first power source and a second power source, wherein the first power source is configured to supply power to the device, and

wherein the second power source is configured to continuously supply power to the positioner and to the transceiver.

8. The device of claim 1, further comprising a first power source and a second power source, wherein the first power source is configured to supply power to the device, including the positioner and the transceiver, and wherein the second power source is configured to supply power to the positioner and the transceiver whenever the first power source is unavailable.

9. The device of claim 1, wherein the positioner is a positioner IC and the transceiver is a transceiver IC.

10. The device of claim 1, wherein the positioner and transceiver are both incorporated in a location IC.

11. A wireless communication system comprising at least one network node and a plurality of wireless devices, the wireless communication system configured to associate a mobile number with each device, each device comprising:

a positioner configured to determine position information related to the device; and  
a transceiver communicatively coupled to the positioner, the transceiver configured to receive position requests directed to the respective mobile number assigned to the particular device and to transmit the position information in response to the position requests.

12. The wireless communication system of claim 11, wherein a transceiver within a particular device is activated when a call is placed through the wireless communication system to the mobile number associated with the device, and wherein the location transceiver is configured to obtain position information from the positioner, and to continuously transmit the position information to the network node, as soon as the location transceiver is activated.

13. The wireless communication system of claim 12, wherein the network node is configured to route the position information to a location control center.

14. The wireless communication system of claim 13, wherein the location control center is configured to generate a map, and to locate a respective device on the map, based on received position information from the device.

15. The wireless communication system of claim 14, wherein the transceiver is configured to continuously transmit a tone in response to a position request if the positioner is unable to determine the position information.

16. A method of locating a mobile device in a wireless communication network, comprising:  
associating an identification number with the device;  
placing a call to the identification number, when the location of the device is needed;  
receiving position information from the device in response to the call; and  
establishing the location of the device based on the position information.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein placing the call to the device causes a location transceiver in the device to become active and to perform steps comprising:  
receiving the call to the identification number associated with the device;  
obtaining the respective position information from a positioner in the device; and  
transmitting the position information.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein locating the device further comprises:  
routing the position information to a location control center;  
generating a map of the area proximate the location of the device; and  
locating the device within the map.